Troop Frederick

Nov - Dec 1916

(55)

Tracy, Frederick

Nov.-Dec. 1916

University of Toronto
TORONTO, CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

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Regarding admission to the Department of Philosophy.

Having completed the first year,-

A. In an Honor Course.....
(1) Without a star (No dispute here.)
(2) With a star.

B. In the General Course, with First or Second Class Standing
(1) Without a star (No dispute here).
(2) With a star.

C. In the General Course, with standing below Second Class
(1) Without a star.
(2) With a star. (No dispute here, as we do not admit these).

University of Toronto
TORONTO, CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

November 29th,1916.

The President,
University of Toronto.

Dear Sir;-

I am directed by the Staff in Philosophy to call your attention to the enclosed petition and letter.

Mr Smyth called on me on the 17th Nov,and informed me that he had handed this petition to the Registrar on the 28th of September (see date on petition) and that he had heard nothing of it since; that he had enquired about it at the Registrar's office more than once,but was given no satisfaction.

I at once wrote the Registrar (Nov,17th) asking about the matter,but received no reply for a week,when I received the enclosed letter,accompanied with the petition.

At a meeting of the Staff in Philosophy this afternoon, I was instructed,on motion,to write you,and ask if you would be good enough to favor us with your judgment on these two questions;-

(1)-Is it within the prerogative of the Registrar to refuse petitions of this sort without referring them to the Staff of the Department concerned? The Staff in Philosophy knew nothing of Mr Smyth's case until today.We would like to know by what authority "he was refused" (See line 5 of Registrar's letter), when he first made application.

(2)-As regards its spirit and tone,is the enclosed letter a fitting communication to be sent from the Registrar's office to the Staff of a Department?

We have not "broken the regulation",nor do we "allow anyone to enter the Second Year in Philosophy without meeting the published

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conditions." I should be glad to wait on you in your office, with my Minute Book, and go over every case dealt with by us, to show you that this is true.

We would further call your attention to the fact that this delay of nearly two months in referring the petition to us means that Mr Smyth (who in the interval has been in attendance on the lectures in Philosophy) must either be admitted by us into the Department (for which he is not eligible, according to our conditions of admission) or lose his year. The situation in which both we and Mr Smyth have been placed, through this delay, is an exceedingly unpleasant one.

Very respectfully yours,

F. Tracy.

Secretary, Dept. of Philosophy.

P.S. May I trouble you to return the petition and the letter, when you have finished with them.

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December 4th, 1916

Professor Tracy,

University College.

Dear Professor Tracy:

The only suggestion that I would make, and I must say I make it with diffidence, is that no one should be admitted to the course in Philosophy under heading (c) as you gave it to me. I should judge that proficiency in the General Course with or without a star and an honour course with or without a star ought to be the lowest standards, but this is simply my own opinion.

I understand that the petition has been sent to your department and will be dealt with this afternoon.

Yours sincerely,

President.